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# RESPIRATORS protect your lungs, your life

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# WHY USE RESPIRATORS?

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FARMERS AND RANCHERS have always had to contend with dust and chaff. Now they must also deal with powerful and dangerous chemicals, and work in the hostile atmospheres of silos and large concentrations of animal wastes.

Today you need the extra protection of personal respirator equipment designed to fit the job you're doing. Farm and ranch jobs that call for such equipment include:

- Handling and applying toxic chemicals and pesticides, spray painting
- Cleaning and maintaining manure storage tanks or pits, silos
- Working in dusty places or where molds are present.
- Using solvents and other chemicals that give off toxic fumes

**IT'S WORTH THE EFFORT to save your lungs—and perhaps your life.**

Much of the dust you inhale is trapped by the nose and bronchial tubes and never reaches the lungs. However, most dusts eventually do reach the lungs if breathed in sufficient concentration for a long enough time. And those dusts—or molds in the dusts—can cause symptoms of pneumonia (fever, cough, shortness of breath). If exposure is repeated, lung damage may be permanent, resulting in scarring and emphysema and continued difficulty in breathing.

Molds and dusts are not the only troublemakers. Inhaling poisonous chemicals or trying to breathe in the methane-loaded atmosphere of waste lagoons, or in silos filled with nitrogen gases can kill you outright.

***It's important to use a respirator—AND TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT ONE FOR THE JOB.***

# USE THE RIGHT RESPIRATOR FOR THE JOB!

**FOR SAFER BREATHING**—Use the appropriate respirator when you must work in dust, chemical vapors, or where the air lacks oxygen.

Respiratory devices fall into three main classes: (1) those that filter or purify the air, (2) those that supply fresh air from a distance, and (3) self-contained oxygen devices.

NEVER try to use one kind of respirator for all kinds of hazards. Know the type of danger you're working against. USE THE RESPIRATOR DESIGNED FOR THE HAZARD.

## THE DANGER

## THE JOB

## WHAT TO USE

### DUSTS and chaff—

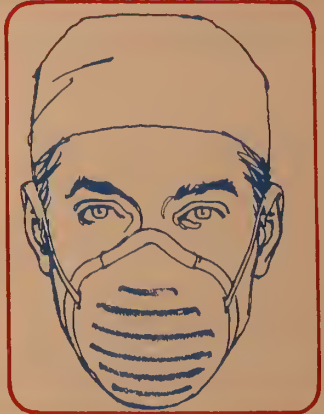
Wherever particles are suspended in the air—

Haying, combining, milling, cultivating dusty fields, harvesting, clean-up operations in poultry houses and barns, applying lime and fertilizers. Work in cotton processing, lumbering, working with pigeons, mushroom compost, sugar cane.

#### DUST FILTER MASK—

Has a filter of fibrous material that physically traps particles out of the air you breathe.

**DOES NOT protect against chemical vapors, gases, toxic pesticide sprays, or lack of oxygen.**



### CHEMICALS

Chemicals may be poisonous in themselves. You must keep chemical dusts, mists, and fumes out of your lungs.

Check with your county agent, pesticide coordinator, or dealer on the kind of respirator to use with specific chemicals.

#### Applying toxic pesticides

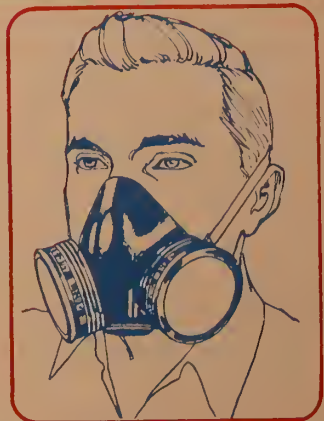
- Organic phosphates, such as: TEPP, Parathion, Guthion, Di-Syston, Phorate, Phosdin.
- Chlorinated hydrocarbons, such as: Aldrin, Dieldrin, Endrin, Thiodan, Heptachlor

Wear the cannister type respirator for longer jobs, and when you should protect your eyes as well as lungs.

#### CARTRIDGE RESPIRATOR

This kind usually has a half-face mask that covers the nose and mouth, but does not protect the eyes. It has one or two cartridges attached to the facepiece. An absorbent material such as activated charcoal, plus dust filters, purify the air you breathe.

**DOES NOT PROTECT from lack of oxygen.**



#### CANNISTER TYPE (Gas Mask)

This covers the entire face. The facepiece may hold a cannister directly (chin-type), or connect by a flexible hose to a cannister carried on your chest or hip. The "gas mask" cannister contains more absorbing material and longer-life filters than the cartridge type respirator.

**DOES NOT PROTECT from lack of oxygen.**





## THE DANGER

### LACK OF OXYGEN

Where oxygen is deficient or highly toxic gases are concentrated, you need to bring your own air supply.

## THE JOB

Working in silos, grain elevators, around manure pits and waste storage lagoons, fumigating.

## WHAT TO USE

### SUPPLIED AIR RESPIRATOR

Brings in air through a hose, from a safe distant supply. The operator's hood is connected by hose to a source of outside fresh air, usually pumped by a blower. Types are:

- Air-line respirators with constant flow or demand flow.
- Hose masks, with or without blower.



### SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Lets you take your air supply with you for short term jobs. The mask is connected to an oxygen cylinder, usually carried on the operator's back.

(Certain gases, like ammonia, can cause harm through the skin. You may need protective clothing as well as oxygen.)



## WHEN YOU BUY A RESPIRATOR

Ask your dealer or county Extension agent about the proper equipment for the job. Follow the manufacturer's directions and precautions when you use it.

Respiratory devices vary in design, the kind of job they are intended for, and protective capability. Be sure you buy the right kind.

## USING PESTICIDES

Used carefully, pesticides are safe, but  
IF AN ACCIDENT HAPPENS—

- Immediately
  - wash affected skin areas
  - read the label of the chemical involved
  - follow its directions for antidotes and first aid procedures
- Call a doctor promptly and if directed
- Go to a hospital or clinic and take the pesticide container or label along, if possible. Have someone go with you.

Pesticides can be injurious to humans, domestic animals, desirable plants, and fish or other wildlife—if not handled or applied properly. Use all pesticides selectively and carefully.

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